

To me, there is no greater way to honor our Nation's servicemen and -women than by making sure they can get a job when they return. I've held a number of job fairs back in my district that have been tailored specifically to assisting veterans. At each and every event, experts are on hand to offer advice for how to effectively search for a job, write a resume and impress during an interview. Up to 50 vendors and local businesses, which would be honored to hire our Nation's heroes, attend these events.

Republicans have also put forth a plan for America's job creators built around small businesses, not Big Government. It includes reining in Federal regulations and out-of-control spending, which hold back small businesses; repealing the costly health care law; and tapping into the abundance of natural resources right in our own backyard. We are focused on long-term growth and not a short-term stimulus. Our veterans need jobs now and in the future.

Those who answer the call of duty from their country should not be overlooked when they return home. I remain committed to providing the best care and a strong economy for our Nation's heroes. It is the least we can do for those who have already given so much.

As always, may God bless and protect our troops and their families.

BROADCAST EMERGENCY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Tomorrow is June 1, and it marks the very start of the hurricane season in the United States.

First, I want to take a moment to thank our first responders—those police officers, those firefighters, those EMS personnel, and all of our emergency personnel—who risk their lives to save Americans' lives.

I also want to stand and thank and recognize another group of first responders, those who are our brave and talented—and at many times courageous—local broadcasters of television and radio and the journalists, many of whom are the first right after the first responders, sometimes before the first responders, bringing to the American people vital, life-saving information. So it is very important that as we begin this hurricane season that we take a moment and say a word for our local broadcasters of television and radio.

I know firsthand how important this is, for I represent a district in Georgia that had a devastating, history-making flood and storm situation in 2009. I represent Cobb County and Douglas County, which were two of the hardest-hit counties, along with Fulton County. We lost 10 lives. Seven of those lives that we lost were from one county

alone, in Douglas County. Many of you might have seen the devastation at the Six Flags Over Georgia, which is an amusement park. It was completely under water. We lost over 500 businesses and homes in that area. Most importantly, we would have lost so much more if we had not had the timely, vital, life-saving information from our local radio and television broadcasters.

A broadcaster's commitment to public service is never more apparent than during a time of crisis. During an emergency, no other service can match the ability of broadcasters to deliver the comprehensive, up-to-date warnings and information affected by citizens. Just think, we have senior citizens, many of whom live alone, and their only contact with the outside world is that radio or that television letting them know what is coming and how to prepare for it. Television broadcasters reach millions of households across the country every day, and radio reaches more than 241 million Americans each week.

Yet, if we are to improve disaster preparedness in our Nation, we have got to make sure that local stations of television and radio have the necessary tools to continue to communicate with people and to communicate with each other in these times of crisis.

So as the 2012 hurricane season gets under way and as local communities continue to face erratic weather conditions, I know that every American feels safer in knowing that their local broadcasters are dedicated and committed to saving lives by providing critical news and information to our local communities. It is so important that we always remember that we must prepare for the storms before—before—the hurricanes are raging, and we thank our local broadcasters for helping us to prepare for the storms before the hurricanes are raging.

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AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come to the floor and say that I was very disappointed during the debate on the NDAA bill, the National Defense Authorization Act. We spent hours debating, and we only had 20 minutes to debate Afghanistan, with 10 minutes allotted to each side. Congresswoman LEE had her amendment, which I supported on the floor, but the amendment that Mr. MCGOVERN and I had worked together for weeks crafting, the McGovern-Jones amendment, basically said accountability on 2014, bringing our troops out.

We need to have these guidelines, and I was very disappointed that our leadership would not bring our amendment to the floor. I think it's tragic that our

young men and women are dying in Afghanistan and Iraq and we're not meeting our constitutional responsibility when it comes to debating war.

Last Saturday, like many of my colleagues, I was invited to speak at a Memorial event down in Beaufort, North Carolina. Primarily those in attendance were our veterans of yesterday and some of our Active Duty marines of today. It was amazing. I'm not a great speaker, but when I talked about bringing our troops out of Afghanistan before 2014, I got a strong applause in agreement.

We have a tremendous responsibility to take care of our wounded from Afghanistan and Iraq. In this financial crisis, I truthfully don't know how we're going to take care of them, to be honest about it. What I do know is that we will deal with it. Yet we continue to spend \$10 billion a month—it is borrowed money from the Chinese—to prop up Karzai in Afghanistan and to pay his bills, to fix his roads, to fix his water systems, but in America we can't fix our roads and our water systems. Somewhere along the way, Mr. Speaker, it doesn't make any sense to me at all.

Last Saturday, before I went down to Beaufort, North Carolina, to give the speech, the Raleigh News & Observer published 27 names of Americans who had been killed in Afghanistan. Mr. Speaker, to honor those 27 who gave their life to this country, I will submit those 27 names for the record.

Mr. Speaker, 2014 is a long way from 2012. How many more names must appear in the paper? Congress needs to have more debates about our policy in Afghanistan. We've got those in this country right now that want to go in and bomb Syria, bomb Iran, and do all these things, and yet we in Congress just sit by and pass more and more bills to pay for all this funding overseas that we can't even account for.

Mr. Speaker, before closing, I bring this poster of this young woman who is in tears holding a little baby in her lap. The baby has no idea why this man in uniform is on his knees presenting a flag to this little girl's mother. How many more scenes like this must happen while Congress sits by and passes more and more spending bills to take care of Afghanistan while we deny the American people? Senior citizens can't get sandwiches at the senior citizen center, children can't get a pint of milk before school because we're going to cut those programs, but we're going to take care of a corrupt leader in Afghanistan. Mr. Speaker, it makes no sense at all.

When we should have been debating Afghanistan a week ago, 72 percent of the American people in a poll that week said, Get out of Afghanistan now. We had 20 minutes, 10 to the Democratic side and 10 to the Republican side. That's no way to say thank you to those serving. That's no way to say thank you to the families who have given a loved one.